

80-7122/4

18 July 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy to the DCI for Collection Tasking

FROM : PB/NSC Coordinator

SUBJECT : PIWG Item: DoD Political and Biographic  
Intelligence Reporting. [redacted]

1. Attached is a 3 July memo from Bob Komer to the other members of the PIWG on this subject. (U)

2. [redacted] PIWG coordinator) called me to ask if we had any comments and/or reactions to this report. Would you please review this report, coordinate with both the DDO and NFAC PIWG Coordinators, and prepare a memo for the DDCI's signature to David Aaron noting our position. (C)

Attachment

cc: DDCI w/att.

[redacted] DDO PIWG Coordinator) w/att.  
[redacted] NFAC PIWG Coordinator) w/att.

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ORIGINAL CL BY [redacted]  
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EXT BYND 6 YRS BY \_\_\_\_\_  
REASON \_\_\_\_\_

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POLICY

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## THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

In reply refer to:

I-20567/80

3 JUL 1980

Executive Registry

89-71221

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*rec'd 9 July*

MEMORANDUM FOR

MR. FRANK CARLUCCI ✓

SUBJECT: DoD Political and Biographic Intelligence Reporting (U)

Inasmuch as the recent Political Intelligence Working Group (PIWG) meeting took place while I was out of the country, I thought you might like to clear the administrative decks by reviewing the information on Defense efforts in the area of Political and Biographic Intelligence reporting.

The attached paper provides a summary of the remarks I had intended to deliver. I welcome any comments.

*RWK*

R. W. Komer

Attachment  
a/s

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Defense Political and Biographical Intelligence Reporting

- Since the issuance on 6 April 1979 of new Defense policy guidance directing DIA, DSAA and the JCS to cooperate in improving political and biographical intelligence reporting and of JCS implementing instructions, the quality and quantity of such reporting from both Attaches and the Security Assistance Offices has increased.
  - DIA published a comprehensive Continuing Intelligence Collection Requirement for all Attaches on political/military and biographic-related intelligence on 26 April 1979.
  - Defense Security Assistance Offices are made aware of these reporting requirements and are routinely tasked by the Defense Attache to acquire information on specific topics.
  - Attache and DSAA political intelligence reporting against these requirements is tracked and monitored through DIA's automated collection management systems.
  - At our direction, DIA also is producing a quarterly report on the status and progress of the political biographic reporting effort.
    - . OSD received the first of these reports in April and Dan Murphy recently wrote to David Aaron reporting its results.
    - . The second report is now being compiled. Preliminary indications show a significant increase in the volume of reporting on Africa, the Far East and Western Europe; and a sharp reduction in the amount of reporting judged to be of no value.
  - DSAA cooperation in political reporting is improving, with several Security Assistance Offices accounting for half or more of the total reporting received on several countries.
    - . In some areas, DSAA remains highly concerned that excessive emphasis on intelligence collection will damage their primary security assistance mission.
    - . DSAA management has remained aloof from any intelligence tasking or reporting -- this is all done through the Attaches.
    - . The most important determinant of the DSAA intelligence reporting contribution is the relationship between the Attache and the chief of the Security Assistance Office in each country. Where these are good, DSAA's reporting volume is large and responsive; where they are not, DSAA's reporting lags.
    - . Consequently, there is a wide variation in DSAA political intelligence reporting which we are now trying to improve.

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- In the area of biographic reporting, on 1 April 1980 DSAA approved a project to develop agreed elements of information, data formats and procedures to establish an automated data base on foreign students training in the U.S.
  - Each Military Service command is providing quarterly inputs to DSAA on all students in FMS or IMET training programs.
  - The DSAA data base will be transferred periodically to DIA for inclusion in the DIAOLS/COINS data bases.
  - This system should be fully operational by the end of 1980.
  - Simultaneously DIA has tried to improve the quality and timeliness of Attache and Service biographic intelligence reporting which supplements the student data retrieval system.
    - . The DIA effort has had only limited success because of the persistent problem of resources and priorities.
      - .. DIA's biographic analysis and retrieval system is still essentially a low-priority claimant against needed personnel resources.
      - .. Attaches and other personnel with access to foreign personnel devote less effort to biographic reporting due to the lack of priority or unwillingness to undertake the unexciting drudgery involved.
      - .. An exception to the pattern is the program maintained by the Army, which maintains an extensive -- and automated -- data system on foreign trainees.
  - Consequently, we soon will have a good system for the retrieval of basic biographic data on foreign trainees, but much of this data will lack detailed appraisals of political views, personal habits, capabilities and so forth.
  - While we are better off than before, we need to devote more effort to bringing DIA, Air Force and Navy up to the standards of Army's biographic reporting program. We expect progress to be slow because most changes will have to be worked within present resource limits.

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